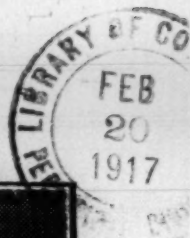


The Suffragist

FIVE CENTS

PUBLISHED BY THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE
AND THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1917



Sentinels Leaving Headquarters for Daily Guard at the White House

Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

AND

National Woman's Party

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OBJECT: To secure an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising women.

MEMBERSHIP: Open to all women who, regarding woman suffrage as the foremost political issue of the day, will support it irrespective of the interests of any national political party.

ENTRANCE FEE: Twenty-five cents. There are no dues.

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The Suffragist

Published by the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage
and the National Woman's Party
Lafayette Square, Washington, D. C.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1917

Notes of the Week

A War Referendum for Half the People

REPRESENTATIVE Callaway of Texas introduced in the House on February ninth a measure providing for a referendum to the men of the country on the declaration of war. This is in response to the resolutions that have been passed by many groups of people in the last week calling on Congress and the President to practice democracy by vesting the right to declare war in the people of the United States instead of in Congress.

A referendum vote by men alone on war would make clearer than ever before the injustice of unequal suffrage, since war weighs equally on both men and women.

Progress in France

WHEN the French Parliament reassembled recently, M. Latappy, former president of the Senate, used his speech opening the sitting of that chamber to urge the political recognition of women.

"War has wakened a dormant force in the world, the force of French womanhood," he said. "In the fields the women of France have sown the wheat that feeds the soldiers. In the factories they have made the ammunitions. In the administrative and ministerial offices they have well replaced those bureaucrats who had lazily inscribed on their walls the motto, 'Better hush up than risk scandal.'"

"You will agree with me, gentlemen," he concluded, "that women are on the training ground for parliamentary representation. The United States are ahead of us. It is time that we should follow in their footsteps."

The free generosity of such an attitude on the part of a leader of France's upper chamber is good omen that Frenchmen will perhaps meet their women half way on the suffrage question.

The Half Day for Married Working Women

FRENCH military authorities in December made regulations for working women with children to spend a half day only in military kitchens, laundries and offices. The National Council of French Women urges manufacturers to adopt this same plan, believing that the half day, with the minimum wage, will prove to be the best principle for working out the economic role of the women with young children to care for.

German Empire Woman Suffrage Union

AT the first meeting of the German Empire Woman Suffrage Union in October at Frankfort-am-Main representatives came from the state associations of Hesse, Bremen, Hamburg, Prussia, the Kingdom of Saxony and Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenach. The war prevented a large meeting, but interest was keen. Problems that women will have to meet after the war, such as a possible government population policy, and the status of unmarried mothers and illegitimate children, were discussed.

The meeting established a Parliamentary Committee to work for suffrage legislation through members of parliament. It agreed also upon petitions to the Reichstag on several important questions, among them the admission of women lawyers to the official final examinations and a change in the married woman's nationality law.

University Training for Women in India

THE League of Ottoman Women Who Desire a Just Influence in Their Own Country is the name of a strong suffrage society that has recently swept 10,000 women into its

ranks in Turkey and southeastern Asia. The president of the league is Madame Nignar Hanum, wife of a judge in the Court of Appeals. It has influential backers among Turkish men, as well as women—and is carrying on an active legislative campaign with ministers and officials opposed to suffrage. One of its most important members is Refie Hanum, who specializes in legal rights and has freed women from the authority of ecclesiastical courts, an important step in the emancipation of Turkish women.

An Ottoman Suffrage League

THE opening of the Indian Woman's University at Poona, India, marks a stride for the woman's movement in that country. The first phase of the movement in India has to be education, and this question is getting more and more attention. Native India is awake to the fact that only one girl to ten boys gets any schooling at all, and many social reformers there are advocating the radical step of co-education in primary and secondary schools to hurry the chance of education for girls and women. The new university will help start the evolution of social and economic independence for women.

Jus Suffragii

JUS SUFFRAGI, the monthly organ of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, is now to be called *The International Woman Suffrage News*. It will keep the other name as sub-title. The paper will hold to a strictly neutral attitude on national questions in reporting the suffrage activities of all countries.

Silent Watch at the White House Continues

EACH day those banners are unfurled, visualizing as they do woman's demand for liberty, there is being released, through that simple act, great spiritual forces which are sweeping our country from coast to coast.

"How long must women wait for liberty?" Growing thousands are answering the question in their own hearts, and praying that the tide of human justice may set their way.

"God bless the brave women who are daring, not alone wind and weather, but the ridicule and misapprehension of those whom they are serving!"

These were the significant words of Mrs. Edwin C. Grice of Philadelphia, in tribute to the suffrage picket at the White House, which has continued through the bitter weather of the last week with enthusiasm and picturesque incident. Mrs. Grice is one of the founders and principal workers of the Home and School League of Pennsylvania, and one of the only two women members of the Philadelphia Vice Commission. Her inspiring words did much to make Teachers' Day on the picket line the success it was. Three Philadelphia teachers, Miss Mary Conkle, who has campaigned for the Congressional Union in the West and in New Jersey and Delaware, Miss Dorothy Bantz and Miss Anna Latimer came to Washington to represent their state on this day, the first in which professional women have demonstrated that they are standing with the Congressional Union in their demand for Presidential support for the federal amendment.

ON Teachers' Day, when a glowing line of banner bearers reached from gate to gate of the White House to prove the attitude of the educators of the nation, a reception was afterward held at the Little White House in honor of the teachers of Washington and other cities. Mrs. Gilson Gardner of Washington, D. C., a member of the National Executive Committee of the Congressional Union, spoke to the gathering and movingly justified the present policy of the Congressional Union out of her own experience in the past:

"It is strange to me that under a democracy," she said, "when we do this perfectly simple thing, this really beautiful thing, standing outside the White House gates to call attention to our long waiting, we should have this avalanche of criticism we are facing at present, demanding, 'Why do you do this at this time?'"

"In the short sessions they say that we cannot expect a vote because of the lack of time; in the long sessions they say they must devote the early months to 'organizing'; then they say at the close

they must put through great appropriations. In short, there are always reasons for delaying action on woman suffrage.

"At the present time their reason is more tragic and more terrible; and our need for a voice in this government is greater than it ever was before. I can see no reason for our not working—all of us—as we have never dreamed of working for suffrage before.

"Remember that all legislators are not opposing us. A senator said to me the other day, 'I doubt very much whether you women will have the courage to pursue your present policy. I think

TWO stirring special days on the picket line this week followed Mrs. Gardner's beautiful appeal, Patriotic Day and Lincoln Day, the birthday of the liberator. On Patriotic Day, when American flags were combined with the purple, white and gold suffrage banners on the picket line, many patriotic organizations, including the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Veterans were represented in the long procession of women demanding justice.

One of the banners carried by the women on Patriotic Day read:

"Denmark on the verge of war gave women the vote.

"Why not give it to American women now?"

The birthday of Lincoln drew forth new slogans for the banner bearers that attracted wide attention from men and women from many parts of the country. One of them read:

"Lincoln stood for woman suffrage sixty years ago.

"Mr. President, why do you block the National Suffrage Amendment today?

"Why are you behind Lincoln?"

Another banner read:

"After the Civil War women asked for political freedom.

"They were told to wait—this was the Negro's Hour.

"In 1917 American women still ask for freedom.

"Will you, Mr. President, tell them to wait—that this is the Porto Rican's Hour?"

IN every part of the country interest in the Presidential picket continues unabated, and the story of the plucky application of the President's own "watchful waiting" policy is being carried to the remotest and smallest towns. Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles of Delaware, state chairman for the Congressional Union, received five dollars from Milford, one of the tiny villages of her state, with

directions to forward the sum to National Headquarters in testimony of support of the picket line. "We feel more keenly than ever," wrote Mrs. Hilles, "that, though we can do other work too, suffrage is fundamental. We *must* get it."

From a newly organized branch in Detroit came a resolution expressing appreciation of "the brave strong work on the picket line," and urging "that it be continued."

This is typical of the support and encouragement coming from places too distant from Washington to send many personal representatives to take part in the picket.



Patriotic Day
A Woman Voter on Guard

you are right but that you will fail through lack of moral courage.' This man actually predicted that we would not have the moral courage to adhere to our purpose in demanding our rights from this government!

"Another congressman told us there was something religious about that bannered picket line; that it had really become to him a part of the modern religion of this country. And I do not think that too strong a feeling. The picket line is part of the eternal truth that we all believe in, and we must make our demand for liberty plain to every one."

The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on December 7, 1915, by Senators Sutherland, Thomas and Thompson.
In the House, on December 6, 1915, by Representatives Mondell, Raker, Keating and Hayden.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.
In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

Reported without recommendation by Subcommittee No. 1 to Judiciary Committee, February 15, 1916.

Reported back by Judiciary Committee to Subcommittee with orders to hold till December 14, 1916.

Judiciary Committee voted March 14, 1916 to reconsider on March 28 motion to postpone consideration till December 14.

Judiciary Committee voted on March 28 to postpone indefinitely (that is, until after election) all constitutional amendments.

Reported

In the Senate, January 8, 1916, the Sutherland Amendment, known as Senate Joint Resolution No. 1, by a favorable vote.

In the House, December 14, 1916, the Raker Amendment, known as House Joint Resolution No. 1, without recommendation.

Present Status

On the Senate calendar awaiting action.
On the House calendar awaiting action.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1916, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).
March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Suffragist

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How Long Must Women Wait?

PRESIDENT WILSON announces his desire for immediate action on the Porto Rican bill giving greater self-government to Porto Ricans. He communicated this week with Senator Shafroth, who is in charge of the bill, urging that it be pushed through Congress at once as a war measure. The imminence of war makes it wise, according to the President, to extend self-government to the Porto Ricans in order to insure their loyalty. And so Congress is turning its attention to freedom for Porto Ricans and the bill bids fair soon to be passed.

In the meantime, women who have been asking for self-government for many long years are told to stand aside; told not to press their claims while the country is confronted with the possibility of war.

Back of the demand for the enfranchisement of women there is a popular sentiment far exceeding that back of the Porto Rican bill. For nearly seventy years women have conducted an agitation for political freedom greater in extent and earnestness than that for any other reform.

Year after year they have been told to wait while more important subjects received consideration. They have seen self-government extended to the Negro, to the Indian, and to the Filipino. Now comes self-government for the Porto Rican,—and women are still told to wait.

Little did the women who served their country through that long struggle of the Civil war and who saw the Negro enfranchised at its close while they were ignored, dream that over fifty years later women would still be appealing to the President and Congress while yet another group of men was enfranchised and women were again passed by.

Why is it that woman's claim to political liberty has been so consistently brushed aside?

We must face the fact that it is our own supineness of spirit. As long as we are so mentally enslaved that we hesitate to insist on our freedom we shall deserve to be a politically subject class.

Why do we tremble and pause when we are told that the time is inopportune; why do we hasten to deny that we are militant in pressing for freedom for women when we glory in being militant in fighting for freedom for men?

If we believe in political liberty for women let us resolve to secure it now. Let us not be afraid of pressing for it now. Let us have such a mental attitude toward our subjection that a President and a Congress will not again declare they can do nothing for woman's enfranchisement at the very time when they are extending self-government among men. Let us so respect our freedom that such a proposal, instead of being accepted as a matter of course, will leave us aghast.

As we watch the Sixty-fourth Congress coming to an end with suffrage for women still neglected and suffrage for Porto Ricans claiming the government's support let us realize that we, ourselves, are to blame. It is in our power to end our political enslavement. The day of our freedom depends upon ourselves.

The Ninety-Seventh Anniversary of Susan B. Anthony

By Vivian Pierce

THE anniversary of the birth of Susan B. Anthony this year has fallen at a critical time in the history of this nation. It is a time that calls for loyalty to the cause of women, single-minded determination to hold high the banner Miss Anthony consistently kept flying for more than fifty years.

During the bitter years just before and during the Civil War the great mass of women abandoned work for their own enfranchisement and went over to "war service" or formed themselves into "loyal leagues" to work for the full emancipation of the negro. Susan B. Anthony was the only leader of women who struggled to prevent women losing sight of their own battle. She vainly tried to hold the state and national conventions in New York—but she spoke to deaf ears. For five years the cause of women was not mentioned in a public place or in Convention, except by this fearless leader, who continued alone her burning pleas for the political liberation of women.

When the War of the Rebellion ended and the emancipation of black men was written into the Constitution, women's pleas for justice were set aside. Stung by this injustice in the face of their long service, women returned to their own battle, set back by many years by their own refusal to put freedom for women before political and expedient considerations. The letters and journals of Susan B. Anthony reflect her despair at this abandonment of woman's fight for independence.

The singular parallel in the situation that confronted suffragists at the time of the Civil War and that which confronts them today is brought out with great clearness. Deserted by the suffragists of her group Miss Anthony was forced to make her protest alone. Her determination in the opening years of the Civil War to put the cause of women, their right to a voice in the affairs of the nation, first was magnificent and solitary.

WHEN Miss Anthony sent out the call to the State Woman's Rights Convention in 1861 she did not know she was sending out the last call to women for women that was to be heard for five years. The secession of the South was being definitely faced. President Lincoln, elected by a majority within the electoral college but not a popular majority, was making a tremendous fight for the very life of the Republican party which declined to recognize any radical group, either the commanding abolitionist group or the insignificant Woman's Rights group.

The National Woman's Right's Convention



Susan B. Anthony
At the time of the Civil War

was scheduled for May, 1861, in New York. In the face of the secession of the South, Miss Anthony continued to send out the calls to the national meeting.

She worked alone in 1861. But Miss Anthony was used to working alone. The drudgery of most of the early suffrage conventions—the vast mass of correspondence, the heartbreaking canvass for funds—she was used to taking upon herself. In that year in the face of the harshest criticism, with the voices of friends added to the ridicule of old foes, she faced that tragic future. With the bitterest political dissension raging around her, with her dearest friends deserting the feeble ranks of those women working for women, she still believed that women must continue to work for a voice in government councils.

Miss Anthony was a fervent Abolitionist. In the face of insult, her every meeting broken up, she had given health and strength to the Abolitionist movement. But even with the fall of Sumter she refused to give up the Woman's Convention through which she hoped to send a final rallying cry to the women of the nation. She had borne the storm of reproachful and vituperative letters. She was unable to withstand the desertion of the scheduled speakers of the convention. To the last man and woman they refused to speak. It was only the prospect of facing alone empty benches that finally forced her to cancel the convention.

TO Beriah Green she wrote in May: "I have tried hard to believe that I alone had become mad, while all the rest had become sane, because I have insisted that it is our duty to bear not only our usual testimony, but one even louder and more earnest than ever before. The Abolitionists for once seem to have come to an agreement with all the world that they are out of time and place, hence should hold their peace and spare rebukes and anathemas. Our position seems to me most humiliating, simply that of the politicians, one of expediency, not principle. I have not yet seen one good reason for the abandonment of our meetings, and am more and more ashamed and sad that even the little apostolic number have yielded to the world's motto: 'The end justifies the means.'"

With the great tragedy of this country beginning, Miss Anthony in the following February, still clear-eyed in the face of the storm, once more tried to call a convention in New York, the yearly state convention. Her letters to the friends of the women's cause met with no response. Miss Anthony did not acknowledge then, and to the end of her life never admitted, that in the

face of that calamity there was a question before the country more important than the political equality of American women. Rather than throw herself into "war work"—at the time lint and bandages were so piled up in Washington that the government was forced to ask that no more material be sent—she retired to her old home, where, since the obstacles to further work were insuperable at the moment, she waited, recuperating her strength for renewing the battle for independence.

HER passionate belief that until women rose up and fought their own battles they would be left defenceless was borne out the same year when in April, 1862, the laws of 1860, passed by the New York State Legislature, giving women the right to the guardianship of their children and the control of property left for the care of minor children, were quietly repealed, with not one voice to defend these measures that women, captained by Miss Anthony herself, had fought for for ten toilsome years. Miss Anthony had tramped with her petitions from door to door in every part of the state. Through bitter winters she had gathered her groups to tell of the disabilities under which working women suffered. Often unaided

she had collected money for mailing her protests and petitions and letters. She saw the result of these years of racking work swept away with a bitterness of spirit that should be sacred to the women of this nation at this time.

She wrote to her life-long friend, Lydia Mott, who had fought that battle for women with her: "While the 'Old Guard' is asleep, the young devils are awake. We deserve to suffer for our confidence in 'man's sense of justice'; but nothing short of this could rouse our women to action. All our reformers seem suddenly to have grown politic. All alike say to me, 'Have no conventions at this crisis; wait until the war excitement abates,'—which is to say, 'Ask our opponents if they think we had better speak,—or rather, if they do not think that we had better remain silent.'

"I am sick at heart. But I cannot carry the world against the wish and the will of our best friends. What can we do now when even the motion to retain the mother's joint guardianship is voted down? Twenty thousand petitions rolled up for that—hard winter's work—the law secured—the echoes of our words of gratitude in the Capitol scarcely died away—and now all is lost."

THE Woman's National Loyal League took shape the following year, in 1863, with Miss

Anthony forced into the front ranks, demanding full enfranchisement for the slave no matter the fate of the then doubtful war.

"Susan, put on your armor and go forth," Henry Stanton had cried to her for the abolitionist wing of the North. And into the battle she went, not only because she felt that Garrison, Phillips, Greeley would finally redeem their pledges and stand behind the full enfranchisement of women as they had stood behind the enfranchisement of the slave, but because once more in every appeal for the black men of the nation she could preach of universal political liberty, she could speak for the white women of the nation.

In the very Constitution of the Loyal League she wrote in her belief for the enfranchisement of all women and all men, declaring it was

founded "to give support to the government in so far as it makes a war for freedom."

AT a great meeting held in Cooper Union Miss Anthony made one of the most moving speeches of her career when, in the same building in which Lincoln himself had appealed to the American people, she appealed to the liberator of black men to become a liberator in fact, whatever the fortunes of war—and a liberator of all the people. When the emancipation of women is written into the statutes of this nation, without doubt this great appeal of Miss Anthony with its double significance—for she refused to speak for the black man only—will be revived and remembered with emotion by women whose path has been made easier because of her lonely courage.

"We now ask you," cried Miss Anthony at this time, "to finish your work by declaring that nowhere under our flag shall the motherhood of any race plead in vain for justice and protection. So long as one slave breathes in this Republic, we drag the chain with him. God has so linked the race, man to man, that all must rise or fall together . . .

"At this time our greatest need is not men or money, valiant generals or brilliant victories, but a consistent policy, based on the principle that 'all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.'"

Again and again in her Loyal League speeches Miss Anthony made the fact clear that she was speaking for enslaved classes, "not because women suffer, not because slaves suffer," she explained, "not because of any individual rights or wrongs,—but as a simple declaration of the fundamental truth of democracy proclaimed by our Revolutionary fathers. I hope the discussion will no longer be continued," she amplified, "as to the comparative rights or wrongs of one class or another. This is the question before us: Is it possible that peace and Union shall be established in this country? Is it possible for this country to be a true democracy, a genuine republic, while one-sixth or one-half of the people of this nation are disfranchised?"

THE surrender of the primacy of their own cause resulted in the most heartrending and disillusioning consequences, when later, just after the war in which they had worked so nobly and faithfully for a cause other than their own, they saw the negro enfranchised by the 14th Amendment, which entirely ignored these women who had helped the negro to his enfranchisement.

In their efforts to have women included in the 14th Amendment which enfranchised the negro man, these same women, Mrs. Stanton and others whom Miss Anthony had appealed to in vain, learned to their sorrow that they could not trust the interests of the woman's cause to "man's sense of justice," which is always so prone to discover other issues which he urges should come "first."

We find Mrs. Gerrit Smith and twenty-seven other women, most of them from the State of New York, expressing surprise at that time "to find Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts, presenting their petition, *with an apology*, presenting it "under protest," as "most inopportune." Mr. Sumner said in a speech before the Senate, "I took occasion to remark that in my opinion the petition at that time was not judicious. I did venture to say that in my opinion it was not judicious for them (women) at this moment to bring forward their claims so as to compromise in any way the great question of equal rights for an enfranchised race now before Congress."

EXPERIENCE proved the wisdom of Miss Anthony's desire that women work steadfastly for suffrage, not abandoning the cause no matter what stressful circumstances might engage their attention outside this issue. A tragic and heartbreaking lesson was learned when women were told in 1862 to stand aside; "This is the negro's hour."

History repeats itself. The modern suffragist in her desire to help in the democratization of the whole world must remain faithful to the real democracy which shall enfranchise women equally with men.

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Bryan Emphasizes His Support of the Federal Amendment

I AM in favor of woman suffrage, state and national. Am anxious to see it adopted in every state and by a national amendment. I hope the Democratic party will take the lead in this great reform.

"W. J. BRYAN."

On February 2nd, Mr. William Jennings Bryan came to New York City to speak at a meeting. In the afternoon Mrs. William Colt, Mrs. Charles L. Beard and Mrs. Robert Adamson, members of the National Advisory Council of the Congressional Union, interviewed Mr. Bryan on the federal amendment and he gave them this signed statement.

MR. BRYAN has traveled a long road quickly. When he went out before the 1916 election to stump the equal suffrage states for the Democratic party, he devoted about one-third of his press material and of every speech warning Democratic women not to be "misled" by the Woman's Party which urged them to vote against the party which refused to enfranchise women.

Mr. Bryan found that he had brought a hornet's nest down on his head by these political pokings.

Spirited answers to his attacks came from voting women on every side. Wherever he went he found himself in the middle of the Woman's Party organization. Wherever he turned he was haunted with yellow banners. Wherever he spoke Woman's Party speakers followed hot on his trail reiterating the suffrage shortcomings of Mr. Wilson.

In Arizona two voters, Miss Helen Todd and Mrs. E. St. Clair Thompson, interviewed him after an eloquent speech on "Justice, Freedom, Peace and Democracy." They asked why such lovers of liberty as Mr. Wilson, himself and the Democratic party had opposed woman suffrage in Congress. He replied benignly that women must wait without impatience, that they "could not pick berries before they were ripe."

In Nevada the man who counseled patience found that Miss Anne Martin had stirred up the liveliest kind of opposition against the Democratic suffrage record. Mr. Bryan did his best to keep his feet. He flayed the Woman's Party in meetings that were always followed by second meetings pressing the suffrage point relentlessly home. Hundreds crowded to hear the case for federal suffrage as they came out of Mr. Bryan's meetings, and hundreds of others never got to his meetings because they stopped to hear Woman's Party speakers first. The same kind of cam-

paign went on in Wyoming and Montana where Miss Maud Younger camped on Mr. Bryan's path and kept him busy bolstering himself up in his position against increasing crowds of earnest women armed with votes.

Mr. Bryan held out as far as Billings, Montana. Then he could no longer ignore the rising political wind. He turned straight round and faced with it. The Woman's Party had raised the issue squarely and Mr. Bryan had to meet it. He came out in that city for the federal amendment.

After election at a dinner given for him in Washington in the first week of December, Mr. Bryan brought up suffrage as one of the Democratic reforms he hoped for.

His pronouncement then was hardly so definite as to method or time for suffrage reform as suffragists desired. The positiveness of this New York statement is the more welcome to them on that account.

They now feel sure that Mr. Bryan has come all the way and taken a firm stand for the amendment. With his wise political eye he doubtless sees the strategic hold national suffrage has upon its opponents. He has not forgotten the West. And Mr. Bryan on the side of the federal amendment is a strong force in the Democratic party.

The Legislative Situation

THE Susan B. Anthony amendment for which the Congressional Union is working is in the House Rules Committee waiting to be reported out for a vote, and in the Senate is on the calendar awaiting action. The Union is putting every effort into having the amendment passed before the end of the 64th Congress on March 4th. Lobbying interviews and delegations at Washington, letters, telegrams and resolutions pouring in from the states are impressing upon the President, upon the Democratic leaders who steer things in Congress, and upon the Rules Committee the support of voters and public opinion back of the proposed amendment. The legislative committee of the Union is seeking to get for the suffrage measure the treatment the administration gives an important party measure.

Representative Raker, who introduced the suffrage resolution, has introduced another resolution calling for a debate and a vote on the bill. This has been referred to the Rules Committee. The legislative committee is impressing on the Democratic leaders and the Rules Committee that they are not interested in a purposeless debate and a vote, but are interested only in the passage of the amendment.

There is still time to get the amendment through this session, and the Congressional Union is at work in every department proving to the administration that it is the right time to put the question up to the states to decide.

The state branches have organized a powerful support for the amendment from all over the

country. The state legislative chairmen who have this side of the state's activities in charge are doing most effective work in getting the opinions of their states expressed to Congress.

THE women of the voting states are showing their metal,—and their experience in getting legislatures to do what they want. The western branches of the Union, constituting the Woman's Party, are concentrating on memorials to Congress from their state legislatures calling for federal action on suffrage. The Nevada Senate, at the instance of the Nevada Woman's Party, has just passed such a resolution without a dissenting vote, calling upon Nevada Congressmen "to work for the passage and vote for the proposed amendment." The resolution is expected to pass the lower house this week, and will make the fifth of these state memorials backed by voting women. They are extremely important for creating the right sentiment and putting a great section of the country on record.

A memorial of this kind is also before the Colorado Assembly. Dr. Caroline Spencer, state secretary of the Woman's Party, and Dr. Margaret Long, chairman of the first congressional district, went personally to the Assembly to interview the Resolutions Committee and to see the bill introduced in both houses. The legislative chairman, Mrs. Lillian Kerr, has made up a committee to follow the course of the bills and keep a delegation of women present in behalf of them. One of their methods of lobbying is sup-

plying every one of the legislators with a copy of the SUFFRAGIST. This same committee is keeping up steady pressure on Congress directly for the passage of the amendment. While Dr. Spencer was in Denver to see the memorial introduced, she spoke before a meeting of the first congressional district, telling of her recent visit to national headquarters at Washington, and the need of Eastern women for voting women's help.

From the unenfranchised states comes similar active cooperation in the work with Congress. The Minnesota branch of the Union, for example, has secured the undivided support for the federal amendment of the Farmers' Non-Partisan League, which was responsible for the passage of Presidential suffrage in North Dakota and has already gained great strength in Minnesota and other states. Miss Sarah Grant, who is helping with the legislative work in Minnesota, states that that branch has worked up a systematic securing of letters from men and women all over the state to Congress. They have done this by direct appeals and by speaking at many meetings. Resolutions have been sent to the administration from such groups of women as the Mothers' Council, one hundred University of Minnesota alumnae, the Ramsay County Woman Suffrage Association, and the Monday Literary Club, made up largely of Scandinavian women. Each week Miss Grant has the last number of the SUFFRAGIST sold in front of the Capitol, as a kind of modified picket that has proved valuable to interest recruits for the work.

Organization of Iowa Branch of Congressional Union

THE Iowa branch of the Congressional Union, which held a preliminary conference last summer, organized definitely and with much enthusiasm at a conference held in Des Moines on February third.

The movement for federal suffrage first started in Iowa just after the election campaign. Iowa suffragists, disheartened by the state defeat only two months before, brought an ardent interest to the new hope of enfranchisement. But in August when the conference was held people were so scattered for the summer that a final organization was impossible. Since the election proved federal suffrage a practical issue, Iowa women interested in the Union have been more active than ever in getting information about its policy before the women of the state so as to start them upon effective work for the amendment.

Miss Margaret Whittemore, national organizer for the Congressional Union, went out to help with this second conference, and has been working and speaking in the state for several weeks. Miss Beulah Amidon, another national organizer, joined her for the last week before the conference.

FIFTY prominent suffragists made up the committee that arranged the conference and sent out hundreds of calls to women all over the state. Among them were women of experience with state suffrage referendums and with practical affairs, such as Mrs. Mary Ankeny Hunter of Des Moines, one of a pioneer Iowa family and for years a worker in the unsuccessful state suffrage fight, Miss Florence Harsh, a business woman of Des Moines, and Mrs. F. W. Harvey, president of the Political Equality Club, Des Moines' oldest suffrage organization.

THE conference was held after a luncheon at Youngers' Tea Room in Des Moines. Over a hundred and fifty women gathered to hear

answered the questions Iowa women have been asking more and more determinedly since the Congressional Union spirit began spreading in that state: "What can we do toward helping the passage of the Susan B. Anthony amendment?"

Mrs. C. N. Shankland acted as chairman of the day. She spoke briefly in support of national suffrage action and introduced Dr. Carrie Harbeson-Dickey, the toastmistress.

Dr. Dickey explained why the direct, forceful methods of the Union, that go straight to the source of power and there plant their banner, count more than the old-fashioned, round-about ones. She also recited some clever verses she had written apropos of the White House pickets, of which the refrain was, "I want to be a picket, in the picket fence." Dr. Dickey will probably soon have her wish, for she and her mother are among a number of Des Moines women who plan to join the forces at work in Washington.

Miss Whittemore, who spoke next, told the origin of the Congressional Union and the story of its work with Congress. She pointed out the responsibility of the President for holding back the amendment.

The last speaker, Miss Amidon, who votes in California, told what the Woman's Party campaign accomplished in the "free states" before election.

The speaking was followed by an executive session in which these officers were elected: Mrs. A. N. Beim of Des Moines, chairman; Vice-Chairmen, Mrs. Mary Ankeny Hunter of Des Moines, Mrs. W. L. Lafferty of Davenport, Mrs. Donald MacRae of Council Bluffs, Dr. Florence Richardson of Des Moines, Miss Florence Harsh of Des Moines, Mrs. C. N. Wright of Des Moines, Miss Gertrude Ryder of Dubuque, and Mrs. Fred Patterson of Sioux City; Secretary, Miss Ilia Carpenter of Des Moines; Treasurer, Miss Frances Prouty of Des Moines.

A board meeting of the newly elected officers at the Chamberlain Hotel followed the organi-

zation conference, and plans for the work to be done were mapped out with the greatest enthusiasm. The following Thursday was set for cementing the Des Moines sentiment into a Congressional District organization. Miss Daisy Deighton volunteered to go back and organize her district, the seventh, and before the meeting closed arrangements were made for district organization through the whole state.

FIVE days after the conference the Seventh Congressional District branch was organized at a meeting held in Des Moines on the eighth of February. Miss Florence Harsh, who is to go to Washington to join the picket line in a few days, presided. Miss Amidon and Miss Whittemore came back to Des Moines to speak at the meeting. The spirit of interest and cooperation shown in the discussions and in the questions asked about the Union's methods proved what forceful support Iowa women promise to bring the Union.

Dr. Carrie Harbeson-Dickey, who with her mother is to be present at the national convention of the Congressional Union in Washington on March fourth, was elected district chairman. It was decided to start under her direction an endless chain letter to be sent by Iowa women to the President, pointing out to him that women think they have waited long enough for suffrage. A resolution was also drawn up at once and telegraphed to the President asking his support of the amendment.

One of the most significant events of the convention week happened on the morning of February eighth, when Miss Amidon spoke from the floor of the legislature to the members of both Houses on the work of the Congressional Union and the campaign for the federal amendment. The legislators listened most intently and applauded frequently and heartily. Their attitude and that of the Iowa people in general during the convention is fine evidence of the new and practical respect which has been won for the federal amendment.

Comments of the Press

Watchful Waiting

WHITE HOUSE Pickets represent Watchful Waiting come home to roost.—*Toledo Blade*.

A One-Man Congress

THE Congressional Union appears to be right. This is Wilson's Congress, and while Wilson withholds his approval there can be no suffrage legislation. To drag the amendment bill into Congress and kill it cannot help the suffrage cause, and it will give

Mr. Wilson a beautiful opportunity to murmur a soft "I told you so" to the ladies of the Congressional Union, who have been vigorously hounding him for two years past.

Lobbying, like poker, sometimes is best played on a system. The waiting system looks best this season.—*Boston Journal*, January 31.

What Would Men Do?

YOU may disapprove of the "silent sentinels." You may really believe—in spite of the child labor law, which was forced on the

southern senators, in spite of the Adamson law, in spite of many other instances—that President Wilson is powerless to induce Congress to pass a suffrage amendment. You may even believe that the women in Washington are hurting the cause. But does any one suppose that a large masculine class barred from citizenship, absolutely discountenanced by the president, would do anything half so mild as stand at the gates of the White House carrying a banner?—*Rheta Childe Dorr, in Chicago News*, February 7.

Financial Report

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Miss Alice Carpenter

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Membership fees	19.75
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Mrs. Lucius Cuthbert..	25.00
Miss Florence Youmans	15.00
Miss Clara L. Thomp- son	1.00
Miss Electa S. Lawton.	1.00
Total	\$860.25

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National Headquarters Receipts:

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1917

\$209,984.92

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Miss Anna Constable	7.00
Mrs. William Floyd	46.00

Miss Augusta A. Smith...	2.00
Miss Kathleen Taylor	2.00
Miss Susan C. Woodford	50.00
Mrs. Teresa Wallach	10.00
Mrs. Louise F. Gibson....	10.00
Mrs. Cohen	1.00
Mrs. William Loeb, Jr..	2.00
Miss Lillian M. McAdow.	10.00
Mrs. E. L. Hunt	10.00
Mrs. E. S. Bayer	5.00
Mrs. Charles H. Farnham	5.00
Mrs. M. Julien	5.00
Mrs. Alexander Kohut...	10.00
Mrs. Mortimer Schiff....	10.00
Mrs. F. E. Ackermann...	1.00
Mrs. Myron Schafer	10.00
Mrs. Philip Comstock....	1.00
Mrs. Lewis L. Delafield..	45.00
Collection	209.18
Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont...	1,000.00
Mrs. Joseph Paterno	25.00
Mrs. Charles Parmelee...	6.00
Mrs. Henrietta Lambie...	10.00
Miss A. Louise Beiderhase	15.00
Miss M. V. Lipe	5.00
Mrs. Ansel Phelps.....	10.00
Mrs. Sidney Borg.....	25.00
Mrs. Walter Kernan....	35.00
Miss Minnie Friedman ...	10.00
Mr. Richard Wanless....	1.00
Mrs. E. Tiffany Dyer....	510.00
Mrs. Harriet S. Phillips..	5.00
Miss Marion May	10.00
Mrs. F. E. Tuttle.....	25.00
Mrs. James Byrne.....	20.00
Mrs. Lucius C. Ryce	10.00
Miss Cora A. Week.....	1.00
Mrs. Elijah T. Keehn ...	4.25
Mrs. Elon Huntington	
Hooker	15.00
Mrs. T. Channing Moore.	10.00
Mrs. Richard Lewisohn..	50.00
Miss F. E. Ranger	1.00
Miss Lucy Eastman	15.00
Mrs. Walter Chambers (collected)	6.00
Mrs. Robert Niles, Jr. (collected)	90.00
Mrs. Joseph G. Deane....	25.00
Miss Alice Carpenter....	5.00
Mrs. George Elder Adams.	10.00
Miss Kitty Marian	2.00
Total	\$2,796.78

Previously acknowledged
in THE SUFFRAGIST..... 22,817.30

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Total collected by the
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ruary 8, 1917

\$25,614.08

Grand total

\$235,599.00

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Assistant Circulation Manager:
Miss Frances Pepper

Members Who Have Secured New Subscribers for "The Suffragist"

(In this column we list the subscriptions sent in each week by our members. This is only a part of the total number of new subscriptions received.)

January 22 Through January 28

Miss Iris Calderhead	10
Miss Caroline Katzenstein	1
Miss Mabel Vernon	2
Miss H. Anna Quinby	1
Through New Jersey Branch, Congressional Union	1
Through New York Branch, Congressional Union	3
Mrs. James M. Rector	2
Miss Josephine Locke	1
Mrs. George W. Cook	2
Mrs. Mary J. Norcross	1
Mrs. Jane P. Rogers	1
Mrs. Katharine B. Day.....	1

Total 26
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST 4,512

Total through January 28th, secured by members 4,538

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match; here the colors are Copenhagen, light
blue, pink, rose and black. At..... **\$7.50**
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